

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 USIE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07
/059 W

-----251923Z 042772 /56

O R 251905Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7878

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 7371

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJ: NEW SOVIET CONSTITUTION: SCENARIO AND NATURE OF CHANGES

1. TWO SENIOR SOVIET JOURNALISTS HAVE INFORMED US THAT DRAFT CONSTITUTION WILL BE PUBLISHED "IN A FEW DAYS," PROBABLY ON SUNDAY. THEY SAID THAT THEY HAD NOT SEEN FULL TEXT YET, BUT HAD BEEN BRIEFED ON GENERAL OUTLINES. SCENARIO, AS THEY DESCRIBED IT, WILL BE TO HOLD DISCUSSION AND COMPLETE FINAL TEXT DURING SUMMER, AND TO ADOPT NEW CONSTITUTION AT SUPREME SOVIET SESSION IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER. (COMMENT: THIS TIMING SEEMS PLAUSIBLE, IN PART SINCE IT PROVIDES FOR ADOPTION OF "BREZHNEV CONSTITUTION" IN TIME FOR 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF OCTOBER REVOLUTION. END COMMENT).

2. THE SAME JOURNALISTS ASSERTED THAT "RIGHTS" OF SOVIET CITIZENS WILL BE "GREATLY EXPANDED" AND CHANGES WILL BE INTRODUCED TO ELIMINATE DIFFERENCES IN THE STATUS OF THE RURAL AND URBAN POPULATIONS AND PERHAPS TO CHANGE THE STRUCTURE OF SOME LOWER
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GOVERNMENTAL BODIES. ONE ASSERTED, AS AN "ABSOLUTE FACT," HOWEVER, THAT THERE WOULD BE NO "STRUCTURAL CHANGES" IN CENTRAL STATE ORGANS AND NO COMBINATION OF FUNCTIONS OF CHIEF OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT IN A SINGLE "PRESIDENTIAL" POSITION.
MATLOCK

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTITUTIONAL LAW, HUMAN RIGHTS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, REORGANIZATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: NEW SOVIET CONSTITUTION: SCENARIO AND NATURE OF CHANGES
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